AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (previously presented) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
 - a pair of substrates;
- a liquid crystal sealed between said pair of substrates;
- a plurality of data lines and a plurality of scanning lines, being arranged on one surface of one of said pair of substrates and crossing each other;
- a switching element having one end of a current path connected to the corresponding data line and a control end connected to the corresponding scanning line;
- a wiring connected to the other end of the current path of said switching element;
- an insulating layer, being formed on said wiring and having a contact hole through which an end portion of said wiring is exposed;
- a pixel electrode, being formed on said insulating layer and electrically connected to the end portion of said wiring through the contact hole; and

Application No. 10/081,238
Reply to Office Action of June 29, 2004
Docket No. 8039-1002

an alignment film, being formed on said pixel electrode and in contact with said liquid crystal,

wherein said contact hole is formed at a position overlapping a region where disclination occurs, and

wherein said insulating layer is formed of a plurality of laminated insulating films,

the insulating films have openings individually which form said contact hole in a tapered shape as a whole.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein said insulating films includes a passivation film formed on the switching element, a color layer formed on said passivation film, and a flattening film formed on said passivation film and color layer,

said contact hole includes openings formed in the passivation film, the color layer, and the flattening film, respectively, and

the openings being formed in a tapered shape as a whole.

4. (original) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein said wiring is made of a light shielding material, and

said contact hole and at least a part of said region where disclination occurs are shielded by said wiring.

5. (original) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein the scanning lines and the data lines bounds a plurality of pixels each having said contact hole,

said contact hole in the pixel is provided at a downstream in a rubbing direction with respect to the switching element of other pixel adjacent to the pixel.

- 6. (previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein said scanning line has a projecting portion overlapping at least one of said contact hole and said region where disclination occurs and shielding light.
- 7. (currently amended) The liquid crystal display device according to claim [[4]] 6, further comprising a black matrix overlapping said data lines, wherein said black matrix has a wide portion overlapping a region in the pixel between said data line and the projecting portion.
- 8. (original) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 4, wherein said projecting portion forms electrostatic capacitance between the wiring.
- 9. (previously presented) A liquid crystal display device manufacturing method, the liquid crystal display device comprising a thin film transistor, a wiring connected to said thin film transistor, a pixel electrode electrically connected to said wiring, and an alignment film formed on said pixel electrode, comprising steps of:

forming an insulating layer overlying the thin film transistor and the wiring;

forming a contact hole in the insulating layer through which an end portion of said wiring is exposed;

forming the pixel electrode on the insulating layer connected electrically with the wiring through the contact hole; and

forming the alignment film on the pixel electrode,

wherein the step of forming the contact hole comprising a step of forming the contact hole in a position overlapping a region where disclination occurs, and

wherein the insulating layer includes a plurality of laminated insulating films,

the step of forming the contact hole comprising a step of forming openings in the plurality of the insulating films respectively.

10. (canceled)

11. (original) A liquid crystal display device manufacturing method according to claim 9, the insulating layer including a passivation film formed on the switching element, a color layer formed on said passivation film, and a flattening film formed on said passivation film and color layer,

the step of forming the contact hole comprising a step of forming openings in the passivation film, the color layer, and

the flattening film, respectively, thereby forming the contact hole in a tapered shape as a whole.

- 12. (previously presented) The liquid crystal display according to claim 7, wherein said black matrix overlaps an entirety of said data lines.
- 13. (currently amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
 - a pair of substrates;
- a liquid crystal sealed between said pair of substrates;
- a plurality of data lines and a plurality of scanning lines, being arranged on one surface of one of said pair of substrates and crossing each other;
- a switching element having one end of a current path connected to the corresponding data line and a control end connected to the corresponding scanning line;
- a wiring connected to the other end of the current path of said switching element;
- an insulating layer, being formed on said wiring and having a contact hole through which an end portion of said wiring is exposed;
- a pixel electrode, being formed on said insulating layer and electrically connected to the end portion of said wiring through the contact hole;

an alignment film, being formed on said pixel electrode and in contact with said liquid crystal; and

a black matrix overlapping said data lines,

wherein said black matrix has a wide portion overlapping a region in the pixel between said data line and [[the]] a projecting portion extending from said scanning line,

wherein said contact hole is formed at a position overlapping a region where disclination occurs, and

wherein said wiring is made of a light shielding material, and

said contact hole and at least a part of said region where disclination occurs are shielded by said wiring.

14. (previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 13, wherein said insulating layer is formed of a plurality of laminated insulating films,

the insulating films have openings individually which form said contact hole in a tapered shape as a whole.

15. (previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 14, wherein said insulating films includes a passivation film formed on the switching element, a color layer formed on said passivation film, and a flattening film formed on said passivation film and color layer,

Application No. 10/081,238
Reply to Office Action of June 29, 2004
Docket No. 8039-1002

said contact hole includes openings formed in the passivation film, the color layer, and the flattening film, respectively, and

the openings being formed in a tapered shape as a whole.